THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Sayoko E. Moroi, M.D., Ph.D., Jerome Jacobson Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on January 5, 2020.

Dr. Moroi received her B.A. degree from Duke University in 1982 and her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from The Ohio State University in 1989. She completed an internal medicine internship (1989-90), an ophthalmology residency (1990-93), and a glaucoma research fellowship (1993-94) at Duke University. Dr. Moroi joined the University of Michigan faculty as a fellow and lecturer in 1994, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1995, associate professor in 2004, and professor in 2012. She was named the inaugural Jerome Jacobson Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences in 2016.

An internationally recognized clinician-scientist, Dr. Moroi had a diverse research portfolio in pharmacology, complex cataract surgery, glaucoma, epidemiology, ophthalmic genetics, and precision medicine. She was the principal investigator of two NEI R01 grants, a multiple principal investigator of an NEI R21 grant, a multiple principal investigator of an NSF grant, a site principal investigator of a randomized clinical trial NEI award, and a site principal investigator of many industry-sponsored FDA phase 3 glaucoma trials. Using a standardized imaging protocol, she described parameters for nanophthalmos and small eyes, and a surgical approach for cataract removal. She contributed to the discovery of genes causing posterior polymorphous cornea dystrophy, nanophthalmos, and secondary glaucoma caused by iridociliary cysts. She led the genome-wide association study on intraocular pressure as a quantitative trait in the national glaucoma consortium called NEIGHBOR (National Eye Institute Glaucoma Human collaborataion). She published over 140 research articles, 6 book chapters, and 5 books. As section leader since 2012, she oversaw the growth of the glaucoma faculty to 15 as well as raised funds to endow a professorship, renovate the resident education facilities, and conduct research. Her notable honors include the 2018 Robert N. Shaffer Lecture sponsored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the Glaucoma Research Foundation. She will deliver the Clinician Scientist Lecture at the annual American Glaucoma Society meeting in 2020.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Sayoko E. Moroi, professor emerita of ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2019

Adopted by the Regents
December 5, 2019